

School of Environment and Natural Resources

Youth Environmental Education Initiative

Purpose

The Youth Environmental Education and Outreach Initiative offers activities that develop awareness and appreciation of the natural environment, environmental knowledge, and outdoor skills.

Activities include:

- 1) experiential opportunities for direct, hands-on experiences in outdoor settings;
 - 2) educational opportunities on natural resource, climate, and sustainability topics;
 - 3) leadership development through youth summits; and
 - 4) community outreach through workshops, publications, and media.
- Projects are located in the Columbus area, Ohio, and American Samoa.

Impact

Participants learn about environmental issues, nearby nature opportunities, and natural resources such as water, soil, and wildlife. They also learn ways to protect the environment and develop environmental leadership skills.

Team members develop and lead project activities. Graduate and undergraduate students gain experience with planning, community

Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences
School of Environment and Natural Resources
OSU Extension

Community Partners Involved

Columbus Recreation and Parks
– Barack Community Recreation Center
Beechcroft High School –
Exceptional Science Fair
Columbus Metroparks
Just Columbus Festival
WCRS 92.7/98.3 and WGRN 94.1 FM
Columbus Community Radio
Learn Your Park CBus
National Park Service – Park Rx Day
American Samoa Community College
American Samoa Head Start Program

outreach, informal teaching, program evaluation, and working with faculty and Extension staff.

Students work with community organizations to develop learning experiences for children and youth ranging from Pre-K through young adult. We utilize different educational approaches to meet diverse needs and interests.



How you can get involved:

- Contact us about opportunities for environmental education and related events
- Distribute brochures about our work
- Publicize our events on social media
- Tune in to Youth Beat Radio

To get involved, contact:

Kristi Lekies
Associate Professor
lekies.1@osu.edu
senr.osu.edu/extensionoutreach/children-youth



THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY

